

THE SATURDAY EVENING POST

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DREAMS.

FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST,
BY MRS. ANNIE BEARS FISKE.

Youth, happy youth, 'twas mine once; it is
lost—
Prest down and buried 'neath the autumn
mould;
The world is dusky, now I've grown old
And heavy crowns no more my shaking head.
The forms I loved have crumbled long to dust,
Their very names forgot by all save me—
Dead leaves are clinging to the homestead
tree—
The friends I loved to decay and rust.
Pale dreams lie buried 'neath that sacred tree,
Fair dreams that faded from me years ago;
And by that fallen broode sounds of woe
As of dead voices, fill the air for me.
Soft Night, from out thy darkness bring me
light!
Let me forget that my fair youth is dead;
Crown my shaven brow with roses, white and
red;
Let eyes, long darkened, smile, oh, gentle
Night!
False Night! bring not visions so full of pain!
I wake—Morn's glory lies upon the air—
And I am youthful still, and I am fair—
Bring me no more such dreamlike false and
vain!
Sweet friends, with happy eyes, give me your
hands!
My pulse beats calm and cool as summer
rain;
Of all Night's visioned griefs but one re-
main—
A solitary grave in other lands!

THE WHITE SLAVE.

A Tale of the Mexican Revolution.

WRITTEN FOR THE SATURDAY EVENING POST,
BY EMERSON BENNETT.
AUTHOR OF "ARTHUR'S BIRD," "FRANTON OF
THE FOREST," "FRANK FLOWER," "CLARA
MORRISON," "FORGED WILL," ETC.

[Entered, according to Act of Congress, in the year
1886, by Emerson Bennett, in the Clerk's Office of
the District Court of the United States, in and for
the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.]

CHAPTER XIII. THE PRISONER.

I darted forth, without even an adieu to Don
Ramón, and almost instantly the heavy gate
closed behind me. I found the dragon looking
my horse, true to his orders, and most of the
others collected in a body around him, and all
more or less in confusion and much excited.
"Here he comes! Here he comes!" Here
comes the lieutenant!" shouted half-a-dozen
voices.
"What is the matter?" cried I, springing for-
ward and fairly vaulting into the saddle.
"The guide has escaped," said Sergeant Wal-
ters, "and some four or five of the men are in
hot pursuit."
"Traitor!" as I suspected, and he may
lead them into an ambush!" Quick, there,
let the recall be sounded!"
Almost instantly the trumpet gave forth the
rallying summons, but I heard, it seemed not
to be heeded. We could hear the heavy retreating
trump of the bounding steeds, and the shouts
of the men, but no moment growing more
and more distant, as the chase led them away
across the beautiful valley. I ordered the
trumpet to sound again, but the second signal
seemed to produce no more effect than the first.
"How did this happen?" I inquired.
"No one knew," Don Pedro had been left with
his guards in the rear of the hacienda, and the
first knowledge that any present had had of his
escape, were the shouts I heard on reaching the
post. The guards, and three others nearest
him, had fired at and followed him, while the
sound of the trumpet had collected the remainder
at the gate to await his coming.
"I do not now care for the loss of Don
Pedro," said I to Sergeant Walters, "though I
should have liked to question him before his de-
parture, for he answers the description of one
Romaniño, a terrible chief of a terrible band
of robbers. But I hope to learn my full
gallant fellow who have gone in pursuit—
though I fear this desperate band had some
advantage in getting to him—had it would
not greatly surprise me if he had then taken an
ambush, either of his own men or of the force
of both."
"It is a stout bunch of robbers," cried Walters,
"and back I go now! There goes a volley!"
"No!" said I, "our place for the present is
here. If they are to be killed or captured, it
will be over before we can reach them; if they
escape, they know whither to retreat; and if
they draw the enemy after them, we shall in

turn gain an advantage by taking our foe by
surprise, besides, just now, I wish to guard
against the escape of the officers within."
I at once ordered my little command to form
for action, either offensive or defensive, as the
case might be; and then having enjoined pro-
found silence, I quietly awaited further indica-
tions of duty.
And here perhaps it may be proper to give a
word of explanation in respect to my present
position as commander of a small detachment of
dragoons, and why such a post had been as-
signed to one who himself rated as a private
and carried a musket in the infantry Guard of
Honor.
The Guard of Honor, as I stated in a former
chapter, was composed principally of American
officers, with General Mina as Captain, one Col-
onel Young as Lieutenant, a Major as Second
Lieutenant, and so on down until officers of
minor grade became mere privates in the ranks.
The reason of this was, because, at the time this
company was formed, there were not regular pri-
vates enough to give each officer his proper com-
mand, and it was necessary to have each indi-
vidual properly drilled. But though we minor
officers drilled as infantry privates, each man
exercising with the musket, yet in view of the
posts to which we might severally be assigned
in future operations, we also drilled as dragoons,
each man in turn being permitted to take the
command of a small detachment. Being far
more a lover of cavalry than infantry exercise,
and being withal a pretty good horseman, the
General was not slow to perceive in which di-
vision of his little force I should prove the most
effective, and permitted at the earliest practi-
cable moment to give me a equestrian position
in a company of dragoons, which promise un-
doubtedly secured me my present place at the
head of a small mounted detachment of my own
countrymen.
As I sat my horse at the head of my com-
mand, waiting and listening, I soon became
aware, by the heavy, clattering sounds which
each moment fell more distinctly upon my ear,
that a large body of horsemen were rapidly
nearing us, and soon after I caught a glimpse of
something like a dark shadow flitting along the
valley directly toward us. I had just time to give
the word of caution in a low tone, and send
myself firmly in the saddle, when two horse-
men dashed up with a shout of triumph. Their
voices being recognized, we, instead of cutting
them down, welcomed them with a loud cheer,
and the next moment were bearing down upon
their pursuers, who, being taken by surprise,
turned and fled in every direction, my men in
turn pursuing them, and thus scattering my
command to the four points of the compass.
Fearing my horse's fatigue, when two horse-
men grappled with their foe, would rapidly follow
them so far as to be out of it, I shouted to
the trumpeter to sound the recall; but get-
ting no answer, I bent over the side of the horse,
swain's whistle, and sent its shrill notes over
the valley. It brought to my side about half of
my men, but the rest still continued the chase.
As we could hear their shouts, mingled with
those of their foe, in every direction, while an
occasional clatter of sabres, and the report of a
carnage, announced the probability of some
personal combat.
At this moment, being some distance from
the main gate of the hacienda, I fancied I heard
a creaking of his hinges, and thinking it not
unlikely that La Garza and his officers might
make an attempt to reach their camp, which I
now believed to be at the vicinity, I ordered my
men to follow me, and made a bold dash to in-
tercept, and, if possible, take them prisoners.
I was right in my conjecture, as to the General
and his staff coming forth, but though I was
enabled to get within pistol shot of them, yet
they discovered me in time to make good their
escape, for they were mounted on fleet horses,
and flew like the wind over the valley, their
steeds steadily gaining upon ours till I re-
solutely relinquished the pursuit.
As I slowly returned, having the trumpeter
now in company, I kept him sounding the re-
call, and was much rejoiced to find my gallant
followers come riding up, one after another, till at
last I could count all but four, and as I
lengthened a halt, about a hundred yards
from the chapel, one of them four came gal-
loping up, having a Royalist officer mounted in
front of him, whom he had wounded and taken
prisoner.
I now made inquiries, and learned that Don
Pedro had succeeded in escaping from us, by
riding into a party of horsemen that were sta-
tioned in the small grove of trees from which we
had first seen La Garza and his staff escape, and
that three out of the five who had followed him
had either been killed or taken prisoners, the
remaining two making good their retreat, and
being followed by their enemies, who had in
turn been set upon by us and some of them
killed, with no further loss to ourselves.
Fearing the enemy, whose numbers were far
greater than ours, might rally and attack us, if
we remained where we were, I decided to ride
back to that point of the wood from which we
had first issued into the valley. Here, believing
my party safe for the night, I ordered the men
to dismount, and dispose of their horses on the
green just in front of us, so that the animals
could graze while idle, and yet be caught and
mounted at a moment's notice.
I now for the first time turned my attention

to the wounded officer, whose sword-arm had
been broken by a sabre stroke, and whose suf-
ferings were so acute as to wring from him
many a groan, which seemed to escape against
his will.
"I regret, sir," I said to him in Spanish,
"that I have no surgeon attached to my party;
but if you will permit me, I will bandage your
arm as well as our circumstances will allow."
"I thank you, Señor Comandante," he re-
plied; "but if you would permit me to return to
my comrades, you would put me under lasting
obligations."
"I am willing to exchange you for my men,
if any of them are prisoners," I answered.
"I am of course a stranger to you, Señor
Comandante," he rejoined; "but I assure you
that my rank is Lieutenant, that I am directly
related to General La Garza, and that I will use
my influence to procure the release of your
men the moment I shall have gained my liberty."
"But I am not certain they are prisoners: it
is more than likely they were killed on the spot."
"Then I pledge you my honor, to either pay
you a fair ransom or return."
"Step aside with me," I said. And leading
him beyond hearing of the others, I resumed:
"Señor Teniente, if you will answer me a few
simple questions, you shall have your liberty at
once."
"Anything that I can honorably answer, Señor
Comandante," he replied.
"Is the main camp of La Garza near?"
"It is not far off."
"Within a mile of Palo Alto?"
"No, Señor."
"Within two miles?"
"No, Señor."
"What force does he number?"
"Fardon me, Señor, if I do not name his
force."
"Has he marched hither to aid Don Ramón?"
"I decline answering, Señor."
"Suppose your liberty depend upon your
reply?"
"Then I fear I shall have to remain your
prisoner, Señor."
"You will not answer that question?"
"I would rather not."
"Do you know one Don Pedro Ormaza?"
"I have seen him, Señor."
"You evade the question?"
"I have no intimate acquaintance—I know
him sufficiently to speak to him."
"Is it his intention to leave this part of the
country at present?"
"He could best answer that question himself,
Señor—I would rather not answer for him."
"Do you know one Don Pedro Ormaza?"
"I do not, Señor."
"Do you know it was he who made his escape
from my party to yours?"
"The person who sought safety with us, when
pursued by your men, Señor Comandante, was a
stranger, at least to myself, and I believe also to
my comrades."
"Did you ever hear of one Romaniño?"
"Hear of him?" he repeated, with a start;
"why he is the terror of the country—or at
least he was a few years ago—for I believe he
is now at the South."
"Did you ever see him?"
"Not to my knowledge."
"Well, said I, "I have reason to think it
was Romaniño to whom you gave protection."
"Why believe I should? Any one seeing, Señor
Comandante?"
"No, I am seriously in earnest. I have good
reasons for supposing the man who escaped to
you, is the man whose name has excited so
much terror in the country."
"Oh! if I could get back with the knowl-
edge, in time to capture him, it would be the
making of me! There are a thousand pistols
offered for his head."
"You are at liberty to go, if you answer my
questions."
"But how can I with honor, Señor?" he re-
turned, with hesitation. "Will you please re-
peat your questions?"
"What is the force which La Garza has near
Palo Alto? and for what purpose?"
He hesitated, and at length said:
"My arm is very painful, Señor Comandante,
and I almost feel I should be justified in getting
back to my comrades and a surgeon by any
means."
"Speak out then!"
"You will not betray me?"
"I am a soldier and oath to have some
honor."
"Well, then, the force of La Garza is but
little over three hundred, cavalry and infantry,
and it was removed among my brother officers,
that we were to escort Don Ramón, family and
goods, beyond the reach of General Mina."
"So then," said I, "I perceive that Don Ra-
món has been playing upon me! When was
this removal to have taken place?"
"To-morrow, Señor."
"And where is to be his final destination?"
"That I do not know, Señor. There is a for-
tified ranch, about five leagues northward from
here, which I think will be the end of the first
day's march."
The double-dealing villain! This was why
he had wanted me to remain through the night,
that any rumor of his intentions might not reach
General Mina.

"By the-by," pursued I, "since you know
something of this Romaniño, what object do
you suppose he had in guiding us hither?"
"Holy Virgin! was he your guide, Señor?"
exclaimed the Lieutenant, in surprise.
"Yes, he guided us to Palo Alto, under the
name of Don Pedro Ormaza. He brought word
to General Mina, that Don Ramón was well
advised toward our camp, and that there was to
be a ball at the hacienda to-night, at which La
Garza and staff would be present. It was his
desire to have La Garza and staff taken pri-
soners. What object had he in this, do you
think?"
"Plunder, undoubtedly," returned the Lieut-
enant, thoughtfully. "If I think I see through
the scheme," he added. "If it was indeed him
you had with you, he is doubtless back here
with his armed band, who may be lying in
wait in this vicinity, and it is not unlikely he
has a design upon the hacienda. Finding our
troops near enough to protect the place, it may
have occurred to him, to either involve us in a
fight, or get our chief officers arrested; and
while the attention of all parties should be di-
rected to a different quarter—as of course in such
an event would be the case—he could step in
with impunity and safely bear off the spoil."
"Your conjecture is a reasonable one, and
agrees with mine," I replied. "And now, ac-
cording to my promise, Lieutenant, I will give
you your liberty; and if you find, on your re-
turn, any of my men prisoners, I shall count on
your doing what you can for their release."
"To which I pledge my honor!" added, Señor
Comandante, "and making a military salute
with his wounded arm, he quickly disappeared
in the direction of Palo Alto."

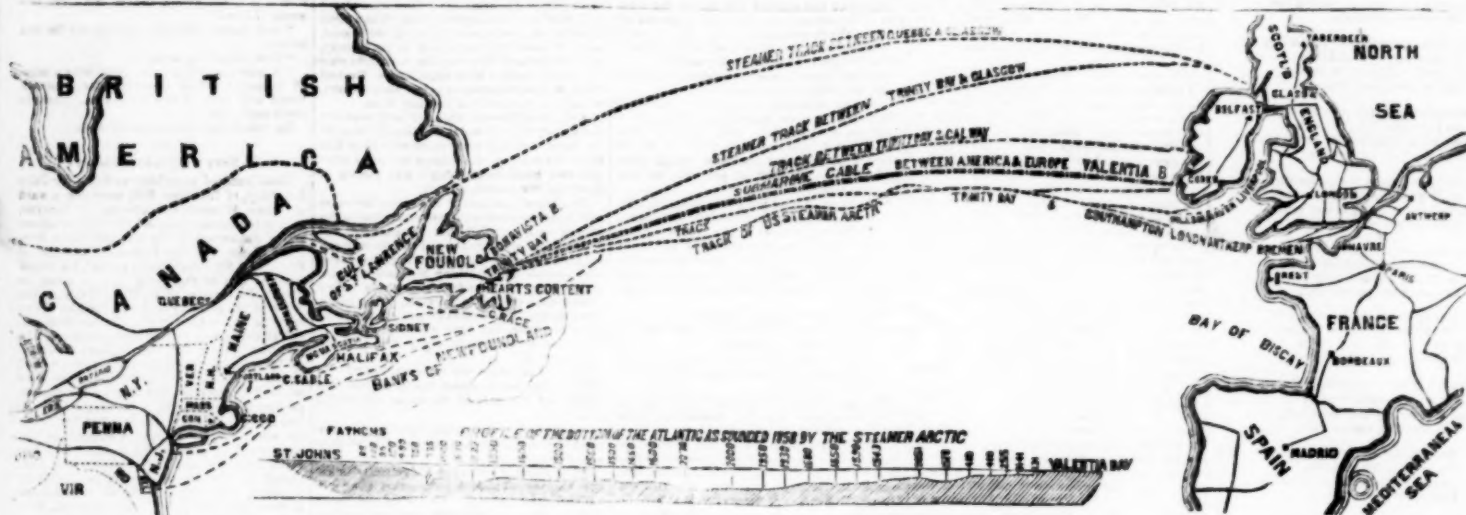
CHAPTER XIV. THE RANCH.

It had been my first intention to spend the
night where we were, and observe the move-
ments of the enemy on the morrow, under the
supposition that the presence of so many troops
near the hacienda might be connected with
some design of Don Ramón; but this suspicion
being so clearly confirmed by the disclosure of
the captive officer, I thought it best to hasten
back to Don Ramón, and report the facts and
my own journey to General Mina.
Accordingly, as soon as I thought the released
prisoner beyond hearing, I ordered the men into
their saddles, and set off for headquarters, which
we reached about an hour after sunrise. Much
to my regret, I now found the General absent;
nor did he return till near night, when I imme-
diately made known to him everything that had
occurred. He was much interested at the dis-
covery of Don Ramón, upon whose willing assist-
ance he had confidently counted; but with his
unswerving energy and determination, he at
once resolved to make him as good as his word.
"He said I was at liberty to seize all I had
named, did he?"
"Words to that effect, your Excellency."
"And that he was secretly well disposed to
the cause of the Patriots?"
"Even so, your Excellency."
"And at that very moment he had a Royalist
General beneath his roof, and knew that the
Royal troops had marched to the vicinity for
the purpose of securing him beyond my reach?"
"If the captive officer informed me truly, Gen-
eral."
"I believe him, Laurens—I believe him! But
Don Ramón shall rue that! How are your men,
Lieutenant? Are they in condition for another
night march? How is it with yourself?"
"I am good for another twenty-four hours,
General—and I think I can answer as much for
my gallant comrades—but our horses are
fatigued."
"We will change the horses—it is the men I
want—for most of the cavalry are off in detach-
ments, securing the country. But you are tired
and need rest—it cannot be otherwise after
having been in the saddle all day and night. Go
to your quarters, and sleep, and tell your gal-
lant fellows to do the same. I shall not wait
you before ten or eleven o'clock to-night. All
will then be ready, and I will march with you.
I will send off Colonel Perry with a detachment
of infantry in advance; we can overtake him!
Don Ramón must be surprised at this ruse, as
soon as possible! I regret not being here when
you first returned. If you could have exposed
La Garza and staff! But no matter! You did
well under the circumstances, and I have no
fault to find. There go to your quarters, and
more soon. Adieu!"
At eleven o'clock that night we were on the
march, with a native of the province for our
guide. As we rode along, the General, who
looked command of the troops in person, made
a number of inquiries concerning Romaniño, alias
Don Pedro.
"I thought it strange," he said, in the course
of conversation, "that a man of his quality—
or at least the quality he represented himself to
be—should take the trouble to ride to our camp,
with the intelligence he brought, and be so
anxious for the capture of the Royalist officers,
and yet have no motive beyond a desire to serve
us; and this, and his looks together, excited my
suspicions; and you remember I continued you
to watch him closely. Well, I only hope he is
Romaniño—for in that case he is as much an
enemy to La Garza as myself, and I feared he
might be a spy."

We pushed forward, at a good round trot,
and about daylight overtook the infantry, eighty
in number, under Colonel Perry, and within
three leagues of the ranch. A halt of an hour
was ordered, for rest and refreshment, and then
the march was resumed. A little further on we
came to where the road forked; and here Mina
gave Perry orders to proceed direct with the in-
fantry, and boldly attack the enemy, while he,
with cavalry, by a roundabout course, should
come upon their rear, and thus create the im-
pression in their minds that they were surround-
ed by a large body—an impression which would
be almost certain to insure us an easy victory.
By the course we took, we were something
more than two hours in reaching the ranch;
and when at last, hoping to take the place by
surprise, we charged into it with wild shouts, we
found to our chagrin that who alone gave us
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THE SUCCESSFUL ATLANTIC CABLE.

ITS TRACK THROUGH THE OCEAN AND ITS SHORE TERMINI.



We present above an interesting map of the position of the Atlantic Cable, now successfully laid. Across the broad vista of the ocean that divides Europe from America, our artist has sketched the tracks of the ocean steamers, the course pursued by the U. S. steamer *Arctic* in sounding, and mapping, as it were, the flow of the mighty ocean, and the position occupied by the cable. The shore termini are likewise given, together with the adjacent territories. A vast

network of inland telegraph wires will at once radiate from Valentia to the westward, over the states and kingdoms adjoining them. But most interesting and important of all, will be found the profile of the Atlantic Ocean, as faithfully sketched by the soundings of the *Arctic* in 1858. This scale of figures at the bottom of our map exhibits the various depths in fathoms of the ocean, and the undulations of its

bottom, on which rests the slender wire that now binds together the two hemispheres. The following interchange of greetings between President Johnson and Queen Victoria was flashed through the ocean:—
Message from Queen Victoria.
 ASBY BAT, July 30.—The superintendent of the Newfoundland line arrived here at 10 o'clock this morning, with the following message from the Queen of Great Britain to Andrew Johnson,

President of the United States: OMAHA, July 27, 1866.—To the President of the United States, Washington, D. C.—The Queen congratulates the President on the successful completion of an undertaking which she hopes may serve as an additional bond of union between the United States and England.
Reply of President Johnson.
 EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, July 30, 11.30 A. M.—To Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

Advertising for a Wife.

THE SPECIAL MAIL AGENT'S STORY.

It is now some two or three weeks since a young gentleman entered the office of a special agent of the Post-Office Department in one of our large cities, and announced that he had a serious case of mail depredations to report, which he would like to have investigated immediately. Being requested to give the particulars of the matter, he produced from his pocket a letter addressed to himself, and post-marked with the name of a small town in the State of Pennsylvania. The envelope bore unmistakable evidence of having been opened and resealed, and the address was in a lady's handwriting.

"There, sir," said he, carefully removing the letter, and handing the envelope to the agent for inspection, "that letter's been robbed by some post-office thief of twenty-six dollars."

"Now I want you to catch him and put the screws to him—give him ten years at least. I don't care for the loss of the money," it is enough, by-the-way, how sublimely indifferent to pecuniary considerations most people are who prefer these complaints. "But I'd like to see the rascal caught."

Now the agent having had considerable previous experience in the investigation of cases of "ripping" was quite sensible that a very necessary preliminary to such investigations was a thorough knowledge of all the circumstances connected with the affair, and after attentively examining the envelope, which was liberally bedaubed with postage, he observed:

"Well, sir, I will take a memorandum of your statement, and if it proves to be a 'post-office thief' as you say—"

"If it does, sir. Why, who else can it be? Isn't the envelope to speak for itself?—hasn't it evidently been torn open and crumpled up again? Of course it is a post-office thief—any one can see that."

"Probably, sir, but I don't rely just yet. Be good enough to let me know the name of the writer of this letter?"

The young man hesitated, and at once his manner became confused and nervous.

"I'd rather not, if it's all the same, sir. It's a young lady, and there are peculiar circumstances about the case—and—in short, I don't want her name mixed up with it."

"But it will be absolutely necessary, in order to make a proper investigation, that I should know her name. Without it, I cannot undertake to do anything in the matter."

"Perhaps she has forgot to enclose the money."

"No, sir—I've had a letter from her since, and she swears—I mean she's certain—she put the money in."

"Perhaps, then," said the agent, striving to express his suggestion in the least offensive way, "perhaps she omitted to enclose it?"

"Sir," exclaimed the fond lover, roused by this insinuation, "what do you mean? There is no doubt whatever, sir, that she sent the money. I would stake my life on her honor."

"Oh, very well, sir, excuse me—no offense intended, I'm sure. But, you know, I have not the pleasure of the lady's acquaintance. By-the-way, how long have you known her—a long time, I presume?"

The young gentleman's embarrassment was visibly increased as he replied, "About six months."

"Met her in Pennsylvania, I suppose?"

"Yes, that is, no—I can't say I did."

"Where did you meet her?"

"Well, I can't say exactly—don't know as I have met her at all, to tell the truth."

"Telling the truth seems to be a work of time with you," remarked the agent dryly.

"Now if you will be good enough to give me light about what you know of this young lady whom you propose to marry, and upon whose honor you are willing to stake your life, perhaps there may be some prospect of getting at the facts of this mysterious robbery, otherwise you need waste no more time in this neighborhood."

"Well, if you must have it, here it is: You see about six months ago, I just for fun you know, advertised for a wife, and this young lady happened to advertise for a husband about the same time, and we answered each other's advertisements. But then she came—all on the square. Oh, yes," continued he, observing perhaps an incredulous smile on the countenance of the agent, "she was all right—wanted a husband—wanted one bad. She was situated in this way: she hadn't got no father or mother, and was under the charge of a guardian, an old fellow about fifty, and she was worth about twenty thousand dollars [here his eyes glinted nervously] in her own right; this guardian he takes and puts her into a boarding-school, and intends to force her into marrying him. Now, I don't like that sort of thing, of course, nature, won't it? So she takes and advertises for a husband. As I was saying, I answered her advertisement, and she replied to my letter, and so we got up a correspondence. Now, there isn't no bumping about her; I can tell when a girl is in earnest. I know she's all right the way she writes. So about two weeks ago she sent me a postscript to one of her letters. 'I wish you would go to New York, and get me five yards of broadcloth, and send it to me by express. I want it for a cloak, and I will send you the money just as soon as it comes, and don't fail to let me know just how much it is, for I don't wish you to be at any expense for me.' So I went to New York and got the cloth, and sent it by express, and wrote to her and told her it was twenty-six dollars, and then she put the money into the letter, and some damned thief in a post-office has gone and stole it; that's all there is about it."

"Oh, that's all?" said the agent, with a dimly repressing the laughter which this pitiful tale of love was calculated to provoke. "Well, sir, there's no doubt that you are a very much abused individual, and if you will call again in about a fortnight, I think I will be able to give you some definite information in regard to the matter."

"Thank you, sir; only just that post-office thief in that state prison, and I'll be satisfied. I don't care about the money—that is, I don't care so much about it; but if I could get it back—"

"Good morning. Have you found out who stole my money?"

"Yes, sir, I think I have."

"I am glad to hear it. Did you get any of it back?"

"Not a cent."

"Well, I suppose he's to state prison by this time."

"Not as I know of; but it is not impossible that he may reach that institution one of these days. Here's a letter which will perhaps explain the matter better than I can. I received it a few days since from Pennsylvania."

The young man recognized at once his Emily's handwriting, and hastened to read the following:

—Penna., Jan. 10, 187—
 Mr. —, P. O. Agent: Dear Sir—I and my Mr. —, I don't say anything about that \$26 I sent in a box to George X. Well, you may tell him for me that that broadcloth is invested in a first-class "shanghai" overcoat. You may also tell him that I don't go to board-inched as much as I did; also that I don't bring any more to the "soft sea," though I think he does. You might mention, while you are about it, that when I get that \$20,000 I will send him half of it—in the same way as I sent the other. Also tell him "Ever of Time."

Yours, truly,
 EMILY MERVILLE,
 (or any other name.)

There was a deep silence during the reading of this epistle in the office of the agent, who had considerably turned his back while the unhappy victim was learning of his wasted affection and cash. The silence continued so long that the agent at length turned to offer what little consolation was in his power. But he was spared the task. The hopeless young man had peacefully departed—possibly to take the first train for Pennsylvania, possibly to meditate in solitude over the comparative advantages of "love at first sight" and love before sight. Wherever he went he had not returned.

A MODEL RAILROAD.—A "Cronica," the fashionable correspondent of the *Pittsburgh Record*, writes to that paper from Richmond, Va., and thus describes the medium of transportation:

"We came by way of the Orange, Lemon and Alexandria Railroad, and would say to persons who are tired of life and in a hurry to get through, try this line. You leave Washington in the evening, and, as a general thing, will arrive in Heaven or Richmond the next day. Each train is provided with a surgeon, undertaker, amputating table and other luxuries: besides these, it has some of the finest coffee I ever expect to see. Hospitals are established along the entire route, and, in case of accident, the bodies of strangers are immediately embalmed. The arrangements are so perfect, and accidents so rare on the road, that many persons have their limbs amputated and get embalmed before starting, to avoid delay while on the car."

DRUGS OF MEDICINE.—A writer in *Chamber's Edinburgh Journal* advances a new idea in relation to measuring out medicine by drops. He says that, if one drops rapidly, the drops are much larger than if dropped with longer intervals between them. "A druggist who administers one hundred drops of a liquid at the rate of three per second may give half as much again as one who measures the succession at the rate of one drop in two seconds." How easy for nature, if she is a quick, bustling woman, to administer three drops to baby instead of twenty.

It becomes people to bear this suggestion in mind, and be careful about giving extra doses. Indeed, the administration of medicine in a family should not be curiously entrusted to unskilled hands. Nobody should be allowed to give a single drop of any thing to a child without the supervision of its parents.

A Paris banker was recently presented to Prince Demidoff, who, to prevent conversation from dropping, said: "You have a beautiful bracelet." The banker delighted for he was proud of his bracelet, said: "Yes, it is a very rare stone." Prince Demidoff replied: "Very rare and very expensive. You can't imagine the trouble I had to get my chimney sweep at St. Petersburg, for they are made of gold." The banker turned as many colors as a flying dolphin.

FOREIGN NEWS.

The armistice between Prussia and Austria expired on the 17th, but there was every probability of its renewal. Previous to the armistice the Italians had been very successful on the South Tyrol. The Italians and Austrians, on the 23rd, agreed to a suspension of hostilities for eight days. The Prussians were successful in an engagement before Freiburg, but the fighting was stopped by a notice of the armistice. Bismarck and Lottich were both taken by assault by the Italians on the 23rd. The Austrian losses were heavy.

LATER BY ATLANTIC CABLE.
 London, Aug. 2.—The Peace Conference is to be held at Prague. The preliminary theories as agreed upon are as follows:—Austria is to withdraw from the German Confederation, and is to lose Venetia and her part of Schleswig-Holstein. Austria is also to pay \$10,000,000 to her adversaries as the expense of the war. The German States north of the Main are to form a union under the guidance of Prussia, and those south of the Main are to form an independent union.

Cause of Anti-Rentism.
 The ancient troubles are traced to the misplaced and unwise leniency of the late General Stephen Van Rensselaer, of Albany, whose large tracts of land west of Albany, in the now anti-rent districts, were divided into farms, and leased to the farmers at very low rents. A correspondent thus writes:

"The farmers came to time every year with long faces about poor crops, and asked him to wait till next year for the rent. Mr. Van Rensselaer was liberal and kind, and let the rent remain unpaid. The next year, and for many years, the story was just the same, and the patron very imprudently commented to let the debt go on accumulating. He should have either made them pay as their rents came due (like John Jacob Astor), or he should have given them the facts. But he did neither, and at his death, in January, 1839, he left all these unpaid rents, as so much good property to his children, and when the farmers were called upon to pay their back rents of ten, fifteen or twenty years' standing, they said at once: 'Your father did not require us to pay rent, and we will not pay you.' Hence, it is seen that the misplaced leniency of Mr. Van Rensselaer is the cause of all the anti-rent trouble in Albany county, the last twenty years."

In Fredonia, New York, the Health Board, in order to stir the people to action with regard to cleaning up, have posted the following notice: "The cholera is coming! By order of the committee."

Natural Gas in Buffalo.—It is proposed to supply Buffalo with gas by a natural flow from wells sunk at Amherst, 10 miles distant. A well now sunk flows 45,000 feet of gas per day, and five more are proposed, and it is said will adequately supply the city.

There is yet standing, near Oxford street, London, a very old sign of "David Williams, Eye Doctor." Antiquarians, after long passing over this have discovered that it refers to a period of society when gentlemen had, so many rows and lights that black eyes were common; and the artist found it a sufficient employment to paint such bruises to a flesh color, in order that gentlemen might go into company without remark.

A Washington correspondent of a Western paper was recently conversing with the son of the writing fluid known as French ink. The ink penetrated a scratch on the hand, and soon after produced an extensive swelling of the arm and other symptoms, which his physicians at present consider dangerous.

The St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer says that "the signs of the last four or five years point to the permanent drying up of the Mississippi river, reducing it from a stream navigable for the largest boats, the whole season, to one of uncertain navigation, possible at certain seasons; and the rest of the year shrunk to a mere creek, winding along among sand-bars and shoals."

Heart-troubles, in God's bookkeeping, are not wounds, but the putting in of the spoils before the planting of seeds.

Keeping a Lighthouse.

In the recently written life of Booth, the tragedian, there are a number of characteristic anecdotes, some new and all entertaining. We quote the following:

"Among the numerous anecdotes of my father's eccentricities I shall give those only which bear the semblance of probability, and such as have been given me on reliable authority. It is rumored that he frequently expressed a desire 'to retire from public life, and keep a lighthouse.' That he seriously contemplated such a step is shown by a memorandum of his dated February 12:

"Spoke to Mr. Blount, collector of customs, and one of the passengers, about Cape Hatteras Lighthouse. He offered it to me, with the dwelling-house and twenty acres of land attached, and a salary of \$1000 per annum, for keeping the light—government providing oil and cotton—a quart of oil per day. Grapes, water-melons, cabbage, potatoes, carrots and onions grow in abundance there. Main water, the only drink; a cistern on the premises for that purpose. Abundance of fish and wild-fowl; pigs, cows and horses feed good pasture. Had one light for wheat or corn. Four bought for four or five dollars per barrel. The office is for life, and only taken away through misbehavior. Lighthouse seventy-five feet high; light requires trimming every night at twelve o'clock. No taxes whatever. Fire-wood is procured from the pines of wreck found on the shoals. One dollar per day is the charge for men who assist in case of wreck. Strawberries, currant bushes and apple trees should be taken there; also a plough, spades, and a chest of carpenter tools. Fine tables are the best. Mr. Blount is to write me word if the office can be given me in April next, from his seat at Washington, North Carolina."

"It may be necessary to add that my father did not obtain the situation of 'lighthouse-keeper,' as was eventually decided, to the tuning of interference of theatrical managers, who were loath to suffer the total eclipse of so brilliant a star. Although his disposition was ever humble and retiring, it is singular that in the midst of his fame, and with such glowing prospects of fortune, he should contemplate a life of hardship and comparative poverty as more desirable to him."

THE AMERICAN MERCHANT "MILITARYMAN" AT SHREWSBURY, ENGLAND.—*The London Times* of July 17th says:

"The royal visitors at Shrewsbury on Saturday, as well as the numerous pleasure parties flocking thither on the same errand, saw a very extraordinary sight—and we wish we could not feel it a painful spectacle. They saw a stately man-of-war between a ship and a diving bell—the Romans would have called it a *torpedo*—almost invisible, but what there was of it, ugly, as once invulnerable and irresistible, that had crossed the Atlantic safely and was anchored in our waters, with the intention of visiting Rome. Round the fearful invention was moored scores of big ships, not all under sail, but modern, for there were among them masted ships, generally screw-driven, and therefore some of them more than twenty years old. These ships form a considerable portion of the navy of this great maritime power, and there was not one of them that the foreigner could not have sent to the bottom in five minutes had his errand not been pious. There was not one of these big ships that could have avenged the loss of its companion, or saved itself from immediately sinking to fate. In fact, the wolf was in the fold, and the whole flock was at its mercy."

It is rather a notable circumstance that Catherine Luther, the last descendant of the great Protestant Reformer, has just died in Germany, a member of the Roman Catholic Church.

As it would seem a military monarchy, the French princes render the credit for tactical skill and successful strategy which is really due to officers whose names are unknown to the general public. General Von Moltke seems to have been, in fact, the Commander-in-Chief of the Prussian army, and to have fairly earned a place among the ablest officers of the age.

It is an interesting sight to see a young lady with both hands in her dress and a man-quin in the end of her nose.

Some of the American papers have standing lead for divorce and print them the same style as advertisements of marriage deaths and burials.

[illegible]

ALL GUARANTEED PRIZES:
Who Don't Draw Blanks.



Fig. No. 12.

11.31, the past 12 years—in the hands of almost any of our agricultural publishers, and then, careful selection, some series of the treatises and products of the land for the past three years, will place any intelligent farmer in position to form a conclusion as to what is well regulated, and how and when to apply it.

"Never be afraid, my brethren; trust will be
 strengthening, and have nothing but the bush which
 surrounded it. God will come out of every
 bush away, etc! Lift away! Not one grain
 of wheat will fall to the ground."

They call Artemus Ward "Artemus Ward" out West. He is such a dinky joker.